



iPod Interface for BMW

## Instruction Manual



**PROFESSIONAL INSTALLATION  
STRONGLY ADVISED**

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### IMPORTANT NOTE

iPod Firmware **MUST** be updated **BEFORE** any other step is taken.  
Otherwise, the iPod will not operate properly. See page 1 for further details.

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# Chapter 1- Getting Started

## 1.1 Introduction

Thank you for purchasing Peripheral Electronics® iSimple BMW interface. The iSimple BMW interface is designed to provide endless hours of listening pleasure through your vehicles' factory radios. To ensure that your iPod performs correctly in your car, we recommend that you read this entire manual before attempting installation of the iSimple BMW interface.

The iSimple BMW interface will allow you to connect your iPod to a factory radio that has the ability to control a CD changer. The iSimple BMW is designed to be used with Generation 3, 4, Mini and Photo iPods.

## 1.2 Precautions (Important, Please Read)

### UPDATING iPod FIRMWARE

For proper operation of the iSimple BMW interface, your iPod must be updated with the most recent version of Firmware from Apple. This is done on your computer. To Update the software on the iPod go to <http://www.apple.com/ipod/download/>. Follow the directions on the website to complete the download. There is no charge for this update.

### PREVENTING DAMAGE TO YOUR VEHICLE OR iPod.

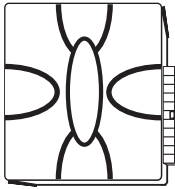
To eliminate the risk of an electrical short, we recommend disconnecting the car battery in most vehicles, except in the following situations:

- Vehicles equipped with on-board navigation should not have the car's battery disconnected. Doing so may cause loss of memory settings. These settings would then have to be reprogrammed by an authorized car dealer for a fee to be paid by the vehicle's owner. For these vehicles, we recommend extreme caution when handling exposed 12V power or ground wires/connectors.
- Vehicles that incorporate a security-code protecting the radio. If the car's battery or the radio's power plugs are disconnected, the radio will not operate without re-entering the security-code. If you have access to the security-code, feel comfortable disconnecting the battery and the radio's power connectors. Other wise, do not disconnect the battery and exercise extreme caution while handling exposed 12V power or ground wires/connectors.

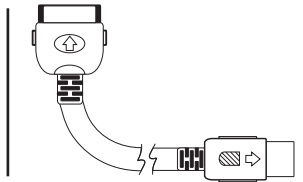
### PROPER MOUNTING LOCATION

Securely install the interface in a location free from; heat, humidity, moving parts or direct sunlight. Beware of hot-air flow from your vehicle's climate control system. We recommend securing the interface to a suitable location, free of sharp metal edges, using; double sided tape, Velcro or wire ties.

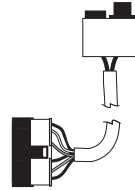
iSimple BMW interface



Docking cable



Vehicle specific harness



### 1.3 Programming the iSimple BMW Interface

Now that you have identified the correct harness and dip-switch configuration using the application guide, it is now time to program the interface.

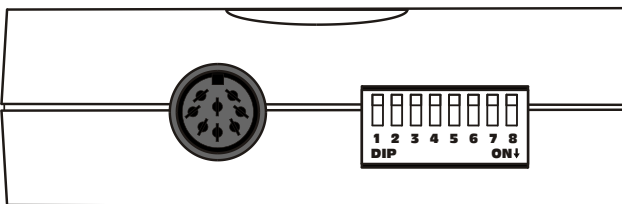
To program the interface, set the dip-switches located on the side of the interface (see Fig.1 below) to the configuration listed below. Switches are in their default setting of “off” in the up position and are turned “on” when switched down. Refer to the chart on the bottom of this page.

This programs the iSimple BMW interface to the vehicle it is being installed in. The dip-switches **MUST** be set before the interface is plugged into the vehicle. Otherwise the iSimple BMW interface will not work correctly.

#### Dip Switch Configuration Chart

BRAND	MODE	HARNESS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
BMW	CDC or Changer	Vehicle specific harness	OFF	OFF	ON	ON	OFF	OFF	OFF	ON

Fig.1 Side view of Interface with dip switches



# Chapter 2- General Installation

## 2.1 Installation at CD Changer

The location of these CD changer cables will vary by vehicle. Some common locations of these cables are in the trunk, behind the glove box, and in or under a center console.

## 2.2 Pre-Installation Checklist

At this time and before beginning the installation:

- Your iPod's Firmware should have been updated. (section 1.2)
- You should have your radio's security code.(when applicable, see section 1.2)
- The dip-switches on the interface should have been set with the proper configuration. (see section 1.3)
- You should have in your possession the correct harness for your vehicle. (see sec. 1.3)
- You have determined your installation location. (see section 2.1)

If any of these steps has not been taken, STOP. Only when ALL of these steps have been taken should you proceed with the rest of the installation.

## 2.3 Installation at the CD Changer Location

In this section you will learn how to install the iSimple BMW interface in the factory CD changer location. If your vehicle is equipped with a factory CD changer you will need to disconnect it from the factory pre-run harness in order to connect the iSimple BMW interface. If your vehicle is not equipped with a factory CD changer, you will need to locate the factory pre-run harness. This may involve the removal of the; center console, glove box, or carpeted side panels in the trunk. Please consult your vehicle's dealership or a local car audio professional for instruction or assistance with locating the factory CD changer connection if necessary.

1. Connect your vehicle specific Harness to the factory pre-run CD changer harness in the vehicle.
2. Make any necessary wiring connections on your vehicle specific harness.
3. Now that the interface is connected to the radio, you will need to test the operation of the interface before permanently running the iPod docking cable or re-assembling the dash. First, connect the iPod cable to the iPod. The iPod should indicate that it is being charged. Turn on the factory radio and press the button that would activate the factory CD changer to select the iPod. It may take up to three minutes for the interface to initialize to the radio (this only happens the very first time you select the iPod). Once the iPod has been selected, press Play on the iPod. You should be able to hear the music on your iPod through your factory radio. Now press the "Next Track" button on the radio. The iPod should change to the next song on the iPod. By pressing the "Previous Track" button on the radio the iPod should change to the previous song. With the operation of the interface confirmed, you may continue with the installation. If you experience difficulties in operation, please see our troubleshooting chart in section 3.2.
4. Decide on a convenient location to mount your iPod.
5. Run the docking cable from the interface to the desired mounting location. Use caution to not cut, pinch, or crimp the cable during this step. Avoid moving parts, vehicle wiring harnesses and areas of excessive heat when routing the cable.
6. Secure the interface in the vehicle using; double sided tape, Velcro or wire ties. Make sure to check for proper clearance and avoid moving parts. Take into account the size of the interface and the wire harness and do not force the interface and harness into a space that is too tight, damage to the harness may result.
7. Now that the interface is secured and the docking cable has been run, you are ready to enjoy your iPod in your vehicle!

# Chapter 3- Operation

## 3.1 Operation

### SELECTING THE IPOD

To select the iPod from the radio, press the button that would normally activate the factory CD changer. The iSimple BMW interface is accessed like a BMW CD changer. In these cases you will press the appropriate activation button. Some radio models require pressing the "Seek >" button once, after pressing the CD button. Yet, it may also be necessary to press Play on the iPod itself to begin playback. In some cases, if it is the first time selecting the iPod from the radio it may take up to three minutes for the iSimple BMW interface to initialize.

### CONTROLLING THE IPOD FROM THE RADIO

With the iSimple BMW interface, the radio will control the iPod as if it were a factory CD changer. Therefore, operation will be done by using the same buttons you would use to control a factory CD changer. For more details on your particular radio, consult your vehicle's owner's manual.

The iSimple BMW interface allows you to skip songs forward and backwards and also to fast forward and rewind through a particular song. In general, most radios will utilize "seek" or "track" buttons to control these functions.

### CONTROLLING THE IPOD FROM THE IPOD

The iSimple BMW interface allows you to keep full control of the iPod from the click wheel. You can browse files and change playlist on the iPod. You can also skip songs forward and backwards from the iPod. The iSimple BMW interface does not disable any functionality of the iPod!

### RADIO DISPLAY DURING IPOD OPERATION

Some factory radio's may show DISC and TRACK numbers on the display of the radio. The iSimple BMW interface does not send any information from the iPod to the radio. This means that the DISC and TRACK numbers shown on the display will not and can not reflect the song number on the iPod due to the complex nature of the music library. Some factory radio's may flash zero's on the display of the radio, or toggle back and forth between 1:00 and 2:00. All these are normal behaviors and do not represent a malfunction.

### CONTROLLING THE IPOD FROM THE STEERING WHEEL CONTROLS

If your vehicle's steering wheel controls have the ability to select track and control the forward and rewind functions of your factory CD changer, then they will also control these same functions on the iPod.

## 3.2 Trouble Shooting

Symptom	Cause	Remedy
No Power	Blown fuse in vehicle fuse block.	Replace fuse with same amp rating. If the fuse blows again, call tech support.
No Power	Bad connection	Check cable and wiring connection.
Alternator noise is heard (Changes with Engine RPM)	Improper wiring creates a ground loop	Install a Ground loop isolator or seek professional service from a local car audio shop.
You can hear music from the iPod but you cant control it from the radio.	The Firmware on the iPod may not be updated.	Update the Firmware on the iPod. See section 1.2 of this manual.
Radio is not recognizing iSimple BMW interface	Bad cables or cables are not connected properly between converter box and car radio	Check connection and cables, push in firmly.
Radio is not recognizing iSimple BMW interface	Wrong configuration on the interface	Select the right pconfiguration for your car. (See section 1.5)
iPod Audio is Low or Distorted	iSimple BMW interface is connected with an external CD changer or other external factory audio source	Disconnect the factory external audio source.

**For consumer technical support call:  
 866-788-4237 in the US or 727-572-9255 ext.262 for international calls  
 Hours: 9:30 am-6:00 pm E.S.T. MON - FRI**

## **3.3 Warranty**

### **One Year Limited Warranty**

The quality controls used in the manufacture of this product will ensure your satisfaction. This warranty applies only to the original purchaser of this product from an authorized Peripheral Electronics dealer.

This warranty covers any supplied or manufactured parts of this product that, upon inspection by Peripheral Electronics authorized personnel, is found to have failed in normal use due to defects in material or workmanship. This warranty does not apply to installation expenses.

Attempting to service or modify this unit, operating this unit under conditions other than the recommended voltage will render this WARRANTY VOID.

Unless otherwise prescribed by law, Peripheral Electronics shall not be liable for any personal injury, property damage and or any incidental or consequential damages of any kind (including water damage) resulting from malfunctions, defects, misuse, improper installation or alteration of this product.

All parts of this Peripheral Electronics product are guaranteed for a period of 1 year as follows:

Within the first 12 months from date of purchase, subject to the conditions above, Peripheral Electronics will repair or replace the product at their discretion, if it is defective in material or workmanship providing it is returned to an Authorized Peripheral Electronic's Dealer, with PROOF OF PURCHASE from an authorized Peripheral Electronics dealer.

### **3.4 Warning:**

This equipment may be reset by unintentional electrostatic discharge during operation. Exposure to direct sunlight or extreme heat may cause damage or malfunction.

## **3.5 FCC Class B Radio Frequency Interference Statement**

This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of FCC rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

1. Reorientate or relocate the receiving antenna.
2. Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver.
3. Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that of which the receiver is connected.
4. Consult the dealer or an experienced radio / television technical for help

Notice : The changes or modifications not expressly approved by the party responsible for compliance could void the user authority to operate the equipment.







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